

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.111
U. S. Application No. 09/863,476

REMARKS

Claims 1-18 are all the claims pending in the application, including new claims 16, 17, and 18 added by the present Amendment.

Claims 14 and 15 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which Applicant regards as the invention.

Claims 1-5 and 10 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by or, in the alternative, under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Ohtsuka et al. (US 6,788,425).

Claims 6-9, 11-13 and 15 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Ohtsuka et al. in view of Sparks et al. (US 6,167,382).

Claims 1-15 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Tamura et al. (US 6,771,896).

Claims 14 and 15 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Tamura et al. in view of Cone et al. (US 2001/0054988) or Narayanaswamy et al. (US 6,144,358).

With regard to the indefiniteness rejection of claims 14 and 15, Applicant amends claim 15 to recite that the thumbnail images are the thumbnail images transmitted by the electronic mail transmission means. Claim 14 is canceled. Applicant submits that the relationship between the phone and the print order acceptance system is clear and that claim 15 is definite.

Turning to the prior art, Applicant has the following comments.

Ohtsuka et al. relates to a print order reception system for receiving an order for print services including a recording medium reception port for receiving a recording medium on

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which image data of pictures and print order information including printing conditions for pictures to be printed are recorded in the form of electronic data in a predetermined format.

Sparks et al. relates to an integrated system using an Internet site and networked computer systems for the storage of pre-designed formats and images, the assembly thereof into electronic files ready for production, and the ordering of all design, assembly, production, and distribution from a single entry point in the system.

Tamura et al. relates to a camera capable of preparing print information of digital image information obtained through photographing, and a printing system suitable for printing of image information.

Cone et al. relates to a portable voice communication device such as a cellular telephone, which includes a virtual image display module so as to provide a virtual image of displayed information that is viewable while the user is communicating via the phone.

Narayanaswamy et al. relates to electronic devices that have two or more display devices that can be used to display different subsets of image signals, such that the device simulates the display capabilities of devices having much larger screens.

Claim 1 is amended herein to recite a voucher printer which prints a voucher including thumbnail images printed in color. Applicant submits that the prior art fails to teach or suggest this feature of the claim. Therefore, claim 1 and its dependent claims 2-5 are allowable over the prior art.

Claims 6, 10 and 11 are amended herein to include the feature of the thumbnail images being prepared on the basis of high-precision image data. Applicant submits that the prior art

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fails to teach or suggest this feature of claims 6, 10 and 11. Therefore, Applicant submits that claims 6-13 and 15 are allowable over the prior art.

New claims 16, 17, and 18 are added to more fully define the present invention and are believed to be allowable at least because of their dependence from claim 1.

In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

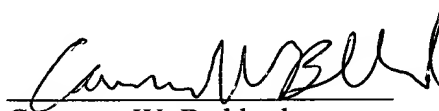
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